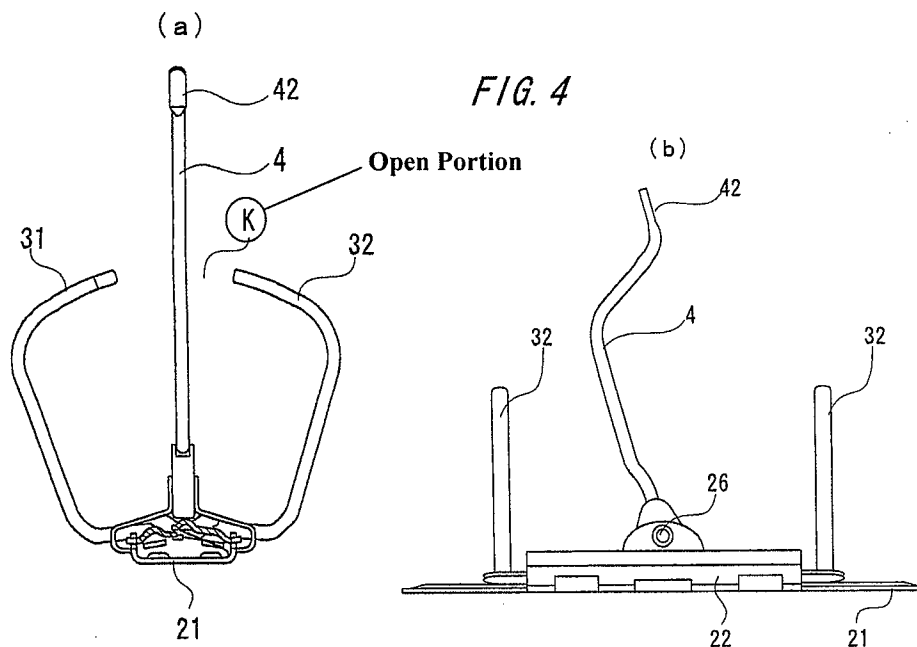


### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, 2, and 5-15 are pending. Claims 5-11 and 13 were indicated to be patentable in subject matter. Claims 1, 2, 12, 14, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,789,561 to Bonn et al.

The Examiner asserted that Bonn's lever 21 passes through the "open portion" when switching between the closed and retracted positions, as claimed. The Examiner attached to the Office Action a copy of the first page of Bonn, on which she marked two lines that delimit what she is interpreting as being the "open portion".

The "open portion" of Bonn does not correspond to the "open portion" in the embodiments of the present invention described in the application. Referring for example to the embodiment of the present invention shown in Figure 4, the open portion **K** is defined between the end of the first ring portion **31** and the end of the second ring portion **32**:



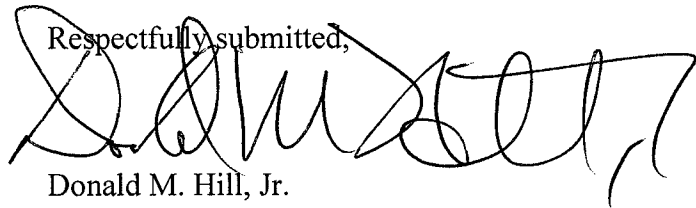


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Reply to Office Action of November 14, 2007

Accordingly, it is submitted that independent Claims 1 and 14 are not anticipated by Bonn and are patentable over Bonn. Therefore, all pending claims are patentable over Bonn.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald M. Hill, Jr.", written over the typed name.

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